

It is with narrow-souled people as with narrow-necked bottles—the less they have in them the more noise they make in pouring out.—Pope.

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You, yourself, have so much capital. Don't let a dollar of it gather rust by being tied up a day longer than necessary in unsalable goods.—Brains.

## MANY KILLED AND WOUNDED IN EXPLOSION

Twenty-two Tons of Dynamite Set Off by Accident in Panama Canal.

MOST OF THE VICTIMS SAID TO BE SPANIARDS

RELIEF TRAINS SENT FROM COLON TO SCENE OF DISASTER—CAUSE IS UNCERTAIN.

Washington, Dec. 12.—So far as official advices show, there were only two Americans killed in the explosion at Bas Obispo today. These were John J. Kelly, a foreman, of Indianapolis, and James L. Hummer, steam shovel crane-man, of Dunellen, N. J. Today's accident is only one of several premature explosions of dynamite reported during the recent stages of the canal construction.

Colon, Dec. 12.—A giant blast of dynamite was prematurely exploded in the canal workings at Bas Obispo today. Ten men were killed and fifty injured. It may be that others were killed, for the debris is piled up in all directions.

Bas Obispo cut is about thirty miles from Colon, and the shock of the explosion was distinctly felt here.

Loss of Life Unknown.

Numerous reports are current as to the cause of the accident, but the official version from Culebra, which gives an estimate of ten killed and fifty wounded, states that during the loading of the last hole of the blast the dynamite in this cut was discharged and the remaining twenty-two tons were exploded by concussion. The holes had not been connected electrically, as the discharge of the blast was set for 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The last hole was being loaded under the supervision of one of the most efficient powder men in the employ of the commission.

Passenger Train Had Just Passed

A passenger train had just passed when the explosion occurred, but it was not in any way damaged. Most of the victims are Spaniards. Relief trains were sent to the scene of the disaster, and one which returned here several hours later brought back the report that forty-five of the injured had been sent to Ancon hospital.

The officials on the train stated that eleven dead had been found, while others were in the cut were missing. It was also reported by the trainmen that the explosion was due to a passing steam shovel, which hooked the wire leading to the immense charge of dynamite. Whether or not this was the cause of the accident, a shovel and crew which happened to be on the scene were practically buried under the mass of rocks and earth thrown up.

Searching for the Dead.

Parties were soon searching for the dead and assisting the wounded. Electric lights were set up and tonight steam shovels are at work removing the tons upon tons of debris. Many of the men have been seriously injured, some of them probably fatally. Tradition has it that the Panama railroad cost one human life for every tie, what with accidents, insurance and disease, and the construction of the canal has not gone along without exacting its toll. There have been a number of accidents in the last two years, chief among which was the premature explosion of dynamite at Pedro Miguel in June, 1907, which resulted in the death of seven men and the injury of a number of others.

LOOTED FREIGHT CARS.

Two Buffalo Men Arrested After a Long Series of Crimes.

New York, Dec. 12.—Charged with having stolen possession of stolen goods, the property of the West Shore railroad, two men who said they were Charles Cohen and Jacob Barney, both of Buffalo, were arrested today.

For months the West Shore road has been a heavy sufferer from a band of robbers. Cars en route from Buffalo to New York were opened and thousands of dollars' worth of merchandise taken. A short time ago, while an investigation was being conducted, the road was open and \$10,000 worth of merchandise removed. According to the police, the thieves had their loot for a while, then packed it in fresh barrels and shipped it on to this city or elsewhere and consigned it to confederates who disposed of it in various ways.

It is said by the authorities that there was \$1500 worth of the stolen freight in the loading rooms in which Cohen and Barney were found.

## FIGHT STARTS FOR NEW RULES

Members of House Will Not Wait Until Extra Session Begins.

CONFERENCE WITH CANNON

DEMOCRATS TAKING LITTLE PART IN THE AFFAIR.

Washington, Dec. 12.—One of the first things agreed upon by the members of the Hepburn rules revision committee in the house was a plan to make the fight for amendment at the present session. The work was started at once by conferences between members of the committee and Speaker Cannon and Representative Williams, former minority leader, as well as between the committee and other individuals among the element favoring revision of the rules.

Word was spread by a majority of the committee, which includes Representative Hays of California, that the amendments would be conservative. A practical disapproval was announced of such changes as the selection of a steering committee of the house to appoint the committee and the proposal to have the committee on rules elected by the house.

Possible Compromise.

The outcome of the individual conferences with the speaker is said to have been an understanding that the entire committee will lay before the speaker after next Tuesday night's conference on rules the amendments that may be agreed upon.

It is understood that the committee will ask to be authorized to agree to compromises that the speaker might suggest if desirable. The members who talked with the speaker today assured him that they were his friends, and that they wished to avail themselves of his suggestions.

Republican Floor Leader Payne and Representative Dalzell will be consulted by the committee.

No More Favorites.

The committee of "reformers" of the rules are practically united on the Hepburn amendment, which would require the speaker as in duty bound to recognize the first person upon whom his eyes fell, instead of allowing him to arrange at the beginning of the day a program, designating members who shall be given the privilege of the floor.

Other amendments that appeal to the committee are to require the call of the committee once a week, so that all bills on the "union" and the house calendars may be reached in due time, and to enlarge the committee on rules, though leaving it to the speaker to select the members. The Democrats are being interviewed to ascertain if they will consent to the committee being composed exclusively of Republicans. As it has been the reputed practice to invite in the Democratic members of the committee on rules only after the Republicans have decided upon a course of action, it is being urged that minority representation is a farce.

Reasons for Present Action.

Among the reasons assigned for making the fight on the rules at this session are that a number of the so-called reformers will not be members of the next congress; that even a losing fight this session will strengthen the "reformers" next session.

The Democrats are taking little part in the discussion. The "reformers" claim that the house leaders will be surprised at their strength at the meeting next Tuesday night, which will be open to all.

## ENGINE BOILER BLOWS UP

Conductor, Engineer and Fireman Killed and the Head Brake-man Injured.

Beaumont, Cal., Dec. 12.—The engine of an extra freight on the Southern Pacific siding here blew up today with disastrous results, killing three men instantly and seriously injuring one. The dead: Engineer David McDonald, Fireman Roy Reynolds, and Conductor Guy Brockman.

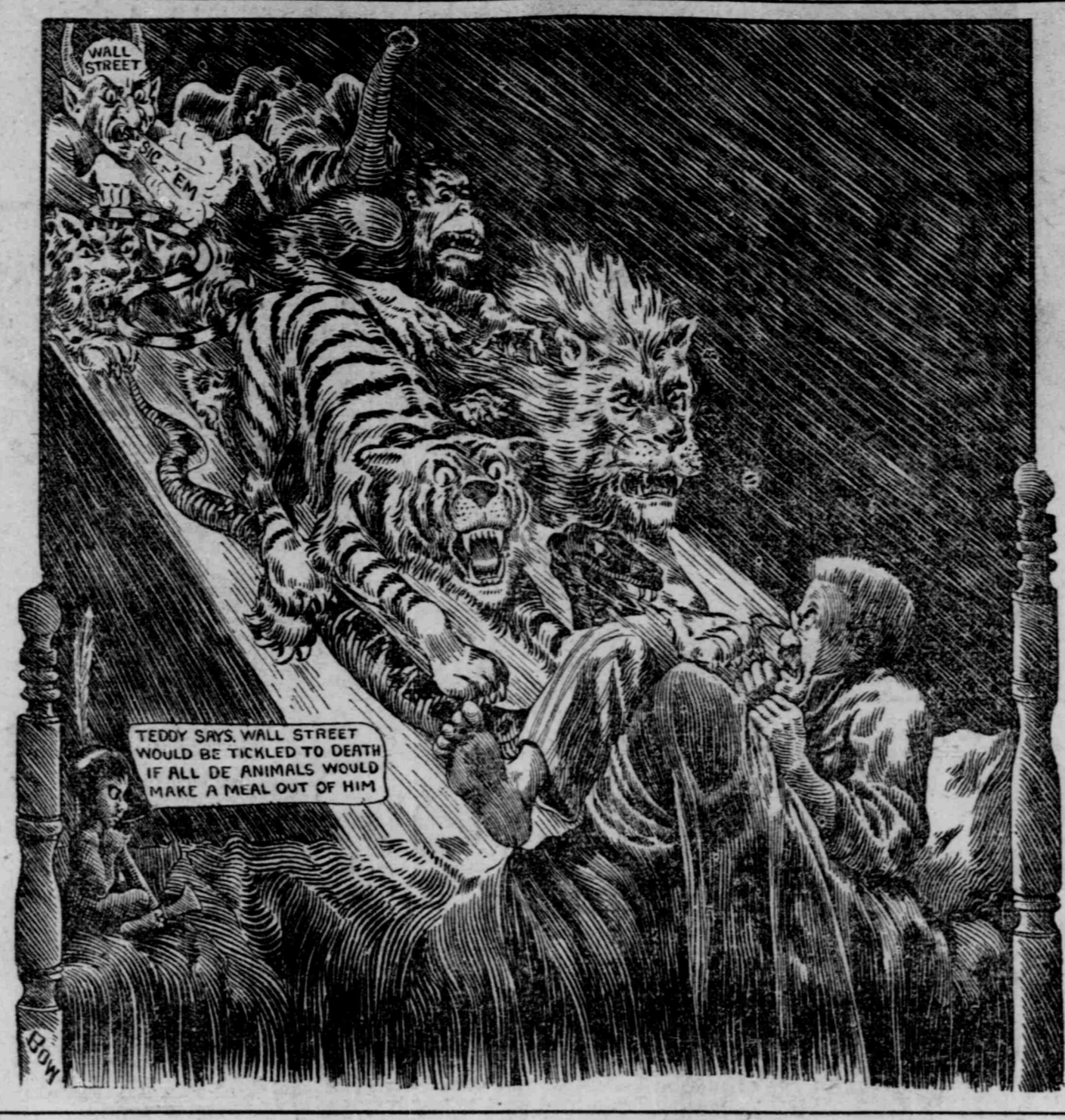
The injured: Head Brake-man E. A. Williams. They are all residents of Los Angeles.

The cause of the accident is unknown, but a board of inquiry has been formed to investigate.

The force of the explosion was terrific. The boiler was blown a distance of 250 feet and the entire engine wrecked.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Elko, Nev., Dec. 12.—Seth Roseberry, an old resident and pioneer of Tuscarora, was burned to death by a fire in his home today. He was sleeping in a bed when the fire broke out in a room adjoining his. The family was awakened by the fire, leaving John and Clarence Roseberry barely time to escape and rescue their mother. They then succeeded in carrying their father out of the house, but he died immediately.



Seein' Things at Night.

## WILL NOT TAKE HASTY ACTION

Congress to Act Deliberately in the Matter of Censuring President.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The action to be taken by the senate in asserting its displeasure because of President Roosevelt's message in regard to the secret service has not been outlined with any definiteness. It has been understood that a resolution would be offered by some Democratic senator providing for an investigation by the committee on appropriations of the president's language. It was argued that the president's language was a violation of the constitution, and the selection of a Democrat for the same purpose in the senate would give a non-partisan flavor to the course being pursued.

A Republican Affair.

Conferences today developed that a number of leaders believe the action should be taken by a Republican and it was suggested that Senator Burrows would be the proper person to offer the resolution. Senator Burrows has not yet consented to do so. It is likely that the resolution will be the same as that of the house providing for the appointment of a select committee of five to consider the whole subject.

No Hasty Action.

It is evident that the house does not intend to take any hasty action in rebuking the president for the statements in his message regarding the civil service action yesterday, of which Mr. Perkins of New York is chairman, did not meet today, but is expected to come together on Monday. The understanding is, however, that no report will be made until the latter part of the week. The members of the select committee are determined to present their recommendations before adjournment before the Christmas holidays.

## LIVELY DEBATES IN HOUSE

Under Call of Committees Several Measures of Special Interest Were Called Up.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The house of representatives today was in its old-time form. No particular program had been mapped out, but under a call of committees several measures in which the members were especially interested, and in some cases vitally concerned, were considered. With few exceptions they engendered the liveliest sort of debate and it was disclosed that the forces for or against them were fully lined up for the fray.

Parliamentary tactics were freely resorted to with the result that five times the roll was called.

The first wrangle occurred on a resolution fixing the boundary line between the states of Colorado, Oklahoma and New Mexico, which were adopted by a good majority, but not without two roll calls. The house then by a decisive vote passed a bill providing for the protection of aliens in disputes between employers and employees.

Next turning attention to the bill providing for the protection of aliens in disputes between employers and employees, the United States subject was thrashed out at length. The measure had rough sailing and it was passed by a thin majority after the roll had been called twice.

At 5:27 p. m. the house adjourned until Monday.

ON ITS FEET AGAIN.

Pope Manufacturing Company Able to Square Its Debts.

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 12.—A certificate of incorporation was filed today by the New Pope Manufacturing company, with \$500,000 capitalization, which in ten days will take over the property and the management of the Pope Manufacturing company, a New Jersey corporation, now in the hands of receivers. The action will immediately follow the payment of the fourth dividend of 25 percent, which will wipe out the debts of the old concern. In addition to 100 cents on the dollar, the creditors will receive 6 per cent interest.

## PROTECTION OF ALIEN ELEMENT

Question of State's Rights Fought in Warm Debate in the House.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The question of state rights figured prominently in the debate in the house today on the bill providing for the protection of aliens in the United States, in accordance with treaties entered into with foreign powers. The bill is designed to relieve the United States from what was stated on the floor by Mr. Sherley of Kentucky, to be "the embarrassing and often humiliating position arising from its inability to make good the obligations of its treaties for the protection of foreigners in this country."

The opponents of the measure practically were a unit in contending that the laws of the several states were ample to meet the situation whenever it presented itself. These forces were led by Messrs. Henry of Texas, Clayton of Alabama, Hughes of New Jersey and DeArmond of Missouri.

Bill Too Radical.

In the opinion of Mr. Henry it was going too far "to take a circuitous route and confer on aliens rights which have not been conferred on them by the constitution." The bill was too radical, he said.

Mr. Clayton said there was not an alien in the country who had not already a remedy in case he is injured or threatened.

Mr. Sherley took issue with Mr. Henry, and said there was no law granting the aliens rights superior to citizens.

After further discussion the bill was passed 100 to 99. The vote was so close that the speaker ordered a re-voice. The speaker's decision was a capitulation at the suggestion of Mr. Henry of Texas. This disclosed the vote actually stood 100 to 100. The tie was broken by the vote of the speaker in the affirmative, which again passed the bill.

Speaker's Vote Challenged.

Mr. DeArmond challenged the speaker's vote on the ground that he had no right to cast it after the vote had been closed. He contended that the only duty of the speaker in such a case was to announce the result of the recapitulation.

In an elaborate decision, supported by precedents which he read, the speaker held that he had the absolute right to vote, and he declared that his vote would stand.

From the speaker's decision Mr. DeArmond appealed, but in the meantime Mr. Jenkins moved to adjourn. On that proposition a roll call was forced, resulting: Ayes, 99; nays, 95; and the house accordingly, at 5:27 p. m., adjourned.

## CHARLES VAIL IS RELEASED

Chief of Police Sends Word to Reno That Former Fire Chief Is Not Wanted.

Reno, Nev., Dec. 12.—Charles Vail, former fire chief of Salt Lake, who was arrested last night on suspicion that he was wanted for embezzlement, was released this morning on a telegram from Chief of Police Tom Pitt of Salt Lake, who said Vail was not wanted in that city.

FATALLY INJURED.

Kansas City, Dec. 12.—Fred N. Sewall, president of the Sewall Paint & Glass company, and a well-known club man, was fatally injured here this afternoon while engaged in a hunt at the Country Club. In taking a ditch, Mr. Sewall's horse fell and threw its rider. Mr. Sewall struck upon his head and suffered a concussion of the brain.

## GRIDIRON CLUB ANNUAL DINNER

Statesmen, Diplomats and Financiers Guests of Newspaper Correspondents.

ROLL CALL AFTER BATTLE

SKIT SHOWING RESULT OF THE RECENT ELECTION.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The annual fall dinner of the Gridiron club, held at the New Willard hotel tonight, was made notable by the presence of a distinguished company of guests. An extended program made the night one long to be remembered. The president, the vice president, the president-elect and vice president-elect, the senators and representatives without number, an English lord, diplomats of this and other countries, newspaper men whose names are known far and wide, captains of finance and industry, and men of affairs were guests of the club, and seated about the gridiron-shaped table.

The Taft Steam Roller.

In an unusual degree the souvenir of the dinner, a miniature steam roller, was unique. It drew particular attention to chairman Frank H. Hitchcock of the Republican national committee, who was one of the notable guests. The roller was a little bronze affair with the name T-A-F-T on the obverse and the gridiron emblem on the reverse side.

The banquet hall at the New Willard was gorgeously decorated. President Roosevelt, President-elect William H. Taft, Vice President-elect Sherman E. H. Harriman, the distinguished financier, Champ Clark, the new minority leader of the house, Vice President Fairbanks and Governor John Johnson of Minnesota were among the distinguished speakers, but a rule of the club prevents any report of their remarks.

Calling the Roll.

One of the most delightful skits of the evening was furnished by roll call after the recent national political battle. The mournful tap of a drum was heard in the anteroom, and there came marching in a battered and dilapidated troop. Their uniforms showed they had been on the firing line.

President Henry announced in solemn voice that the battle was over and that the slaughter had been terrific. The members of the troops answered to the roll call. Sergeant Jim Watson was reported as "killed while riding to the front on the water wagon."

Private Charlie Landis "fell at Watson's side." Private Charles G. Dawes "passed in his checks," and Private Frank Lowder was "shot in the pocket." Corporal Norman E. Mack was reported as "burying the dead." Corporal William J. Bryan was "among the missing." Corporal Loeb was "in the hands of his friends." Private Taft was reported as "leaving Washington." Sergeant Hitchcock was announced as "here with the colors."

Some of the Guests.

Included among the guests not already mentioned were: Thomas F. Weish, Colorado; W. H. Crocker, San Francisco; Speaker Cannon, Secretary of the Navy Newberry, Postmaster General Coyer, Secretary of the Interior Garfield, Senators Aldrich, Beveridge, Bourne, Gallinger, Guggenheim, Hemenway, Newlands and Warner; Representatives Hughes, Hull, Humphrey, Langley, Lloyd, Lowden, McKinley, Mann, Dalzell, Moore, Nye, Stevens, Taft, Perkins, Blandell, Small, Eads, Mason and Sparksman; Governors Macon of Cuba and Frear of Hawaii; Secretary Loeb, Norman E. Mack, Charles H. Boynton, Victor Morawetz, George W. Perkins and William Roche, all of New York.

## WARSHIPS REACH CEYLON

Will Remain Six Days to Take on Coal—Entertainments Are Planned by Authorities.

Colombo, Ceylon, Dec. 12.—The United States Atlantic fleet, under command of Rear Admiral Sperry, was sighted at 7 o'clock this morning. The fleet left Manila on Dec. 1. The sixteen vessels will remain for six days to take on coal and give the men and officers opportunity for shore leave.

This is the first stop on the homeward voyage. According to the original schedule the fleet was to have put in at Singapore, but this was changed and they steamed past that harbor without stopping on Dec. 6.

The colonial secretary of Ceylon—the island is a crown colony—has received instructions from London to extend such hospitality to the American visitors as King Edward would wish to have shown the United States. The legislative council has voted a fund for the entertainment, and a committee thirty has been working hard on the arrangements. It is planned, among other things, to present five pounds of tea to each officer and one pound to each man in the fleet.

## HOUSE MAY OVERRULE ACTION OF THE HEAD OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT

(Special to The Herald.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—Representative Mondell will call a meeting of the public lands committee for next Wednesday to consider legislation governing the disposition of public lands containing deposits of phosphates. At the last session Mr. Mondell introduced a bill providing that phosphate land should hereafter be entered under the placer mining laws, there having been doubt in the mind of the department whether placer of lode mining laws were applicable. Because of the late report of this bill it was not acted upon the last session, and Mr. Mondell now learns that the secretary of the interior has withdrawn from entry all public lands in Wyoming, Utah and Idaho which are known to contain

## TAFT PROPOSES TRIP TO PANAMA

President-elect Evidently Worried Over the Prospects of Finishing the Canal.

APPROVED BY ROOSEVELT

ANNOUNCEMENT FOLLOWED A VISIT TO WHITE HOUSE.

Washington, Dec. 12.—President-elect Taft contemplates a visit to Panama before his inauguration. This visit is approved by President Roosevelt and Secretary Root. While it has not been finally determined upon, Mr. Taft announced tonight that it was his inclination to go. Should this be his final decision, he will depart for the last week in January for a trip which will cover approximately twenty days.

There are many reasons, in Mr. Taft's view, why his trip to the isthmus would be of decided advantage. President Roosevelt's visit proved a stimulus to the work; the three visits which Mr. Taft has made as secretary of war were all of advantage; there are constantly arising and accumulating minor tangles of administration which the presence of the president-elect might make possible of elimination with little difficulty.

His Only Opportunity.

Mr. Taft feels that this is practically his only opportunity to visit the isthmus during his forthcoming term as president. The visit would put him in direct personal contact with the situation.

The only objection to the expedition, which has been pointed out by careful students of the laws and constitution, is that pending the official declaration of Mr. Taft as president-elect by the action of the electoral college and his inauguration as president, there is no constitutional or legal provision for the substitution of any one else in the event of anything happening to him in Panama.

The news of this trip followed a conference last night with President Roosevelt, and today again at the White House, and later with Secretary Root. Further details of today's conference were not made known beyond the statement by Mr. Taft that the selection of his cabinet was thoroughly discussed.

Mr. Taft said tonight the interviews he had had yesterday and today with Secretary Aldrich and Senator Hale had led him to believe that the attitude of these two leaders in the senate respecting tariff revision was decidedly favorable to the kind of a tariff he has been advocating. A conference with Senator Crane of Massachusetts also confirmed this view.

Several Conferences.

Chairman Frank H. Hitchcock, who came to Washington today from New York, saw Mr. Taft tonight. The Cuban situation was discussed thoroughly at a conference with Governor Macon and Secretary Wright and General Clarence R. Edwards of the insular bureau talked with Mr. Taft about departmental and Philippine matters. Senator Bourne of Oregon, Bishop O'Gorman of Sioux Falls, S. D., Secretary Garfield and Representatives Martin of South Dakota and Needham of California also talked with Mr. Taft. Mr. Taft planned to leave Washington for New York following the dinner of the Gridiron club. He will there be the guest of his brother, Henry W. Taft, until Thursday, when he will go to Augusta, Ga., for several weeks.

## POTTER'S FIELD FOR HERO.

Body of William Hanrahan Unclassified in Jersey Hospital.

New York, Dec. 12.—No one has claimed the body of William Hanrahan, a hero of the Boxer outbreaks, who died in a New York hospital, and it is expected he will be buried in the potter's field. Hanrahan was one of four men who volunteered at Tien Tsin to go up to the walls of the city during a heavy fire and remove the dead and wounded.

Among his effects were found letters from John D. Long, secretary of the navy during the Hanrahan's military career, from James Rogers of the board of awards of the United States army, both commending him for bravery in action. It is said that his father is a retired sea captain in Boston, but efforts to locate him have been futile.

MORE INDICTMENTS.

Union City, Tenn., Dec. 12.—The grand jury investigating the Reelfoot Lake night riot raids reported thirty-two indictments today. One of the alleged night riders turned state's evidence today, his confession implicating a number in the raids. As a result more arrests will be made at once. His statement had to do with the earlier raids.

NOW A NATIONAL BANK.

(Special to The Herald.)

Washington, Dec. 12.—The comptroller of the currency has approved the conversion of the American State bank of Caldwell, Ida., into the American National bank of Caldwell, with \$500,000 capital.

## RUEF'S COUNSEL GRANTED MORE TIME BEFORE SENTENCE WILL BE PASSED

San Francisco, Dec. 12.—Abraham Ruef, convicted last Thursday of offering a bribe, was today granted a delay of one week before receiving sentence. The continuance of the case until next Saturday, Dec. 19, was at the request of the district attorney's office, represented by Assistant John O'Garra. Thomas B. Dozier of the defense based his motion for a week's respite on the ground that sufficient time had not been given the defense to prepare the motions and arguments in a stay of judgment and for a new trial.

The inability of Henry Ach, Ruef's chief counsel, to appear in court was assigned as a further reason.

While it was generally known that judgment would not be pronounced today, there was the usual crowd in attendance at the session, and there was no diminution of the police guard. Ruef was brought from the bounty jail in

phosphate rock in commercial quantities. The president's conservation commission has also taken up this question, and is inclined to the view that the government should no longer patent phosphate lands, but lease them on limited tracts, or permit deposits to be worked on a royalty basis. The conservation commission found that phosphates from southern states were being exported heavily, and believed the practice should be checked so that all American phosphates should be used in this country.

Mr. Mondell will lay all possible information bearing on the phosphate question before his committee and let them solve the problem of how best to dispose of the phosphate lands remaining in the west. Any legislative action on this line would supplant an order of the secretary of the interior.